

The 5,000 Year Leap

A Miracle that Changed the World

(National Center for Constitutional Studies www.nccs.net)

Principle 17 - A system of checks and balances should be adopted to prevent the abuse of power by the different branches of government. "It will not be denied that power is of an encroaching nature and that it ought to be effectually restrained from passing the limits assigned to it." - James Madison [Disc 4] (37 min.)

1. Some people wanted the three branches of government to be so completely separated that it would have made the whole system _____.
2. Montesquieu said you must have branches separate in their functions but subject to the _____ of other departments.
3. Some checks from outside the system had been tried which presented more problems. Name on they tried.
4. They finally concluded the checks and balances must come from _____ not from _____.
5. How many major checks does the Constitution allow?
6. Explain one check.
7. Explain another check.
8. Explain another check.
9. Explain another check.
10. Explain another check.
11. Throughout history, how has a ruler dealt with most crisis situations?
12. The Founders' system of checks and balances provide for "peaceful _____ - _____.
13. An example of this is _____.
14. Write the 17th principle of liberty.